

Graduate Council
GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES

Friday, October 29, 2021 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Members of the Graduate Council Present:

Paul Steimle, chair	Alicia Kaplan
Seth Armah	Dennis LaJeunesse
Aaron Beveridge	Lori Lupe
Ben Dyson	Neelofer Qadir
Vidya Gargeya	Salih Rakap
Diane Gill	Robert Wells
Brad Johnson	Kervins Clement
Muktha Jost	Naglaa Rashwan

Members of the Graduate Council Absent:

Selima Sultana

Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Present:

Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazzoni	Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning
Megan Carlton	University Libraries

Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Absent:

Lisa Henline University Registrar's Office

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>
11:00 a.m.	<p>I. Approval of Minutes from September 24, 2021</p> <p>Motion to approve September 24, 2021 minutes (Johnson, Wells). Minutes approved.</p>
11:03	<p>II. Report of the Chair – Paul Steimle</p> <p>Chair welcomed Greg Bell as Interim Dean of the Graduate School. He noted Dean Bell's passion for graduate education, desire for new and creative ways to fulfill the mission of the Graduate School, vision for continued growth, and attention to detail.</p>
11:08	<p>III. Report of the Interim Dean of the Graduate School – Greg Bell</p> <p>Dean Bell thanked Kelly Burke for over five years of service to the Graduate School. He commented on her strong commitment to graduate education and that she will be missed.</p> <p>Dean Bell shared his developing vision for the Graduate School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service—supporting students and faculty• Transparency—helping all departments and programs• Community—providing a welcoming community and supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion; supporting faculty and the

Graduate Student Association

- Excellence—talented students and faculty

Dean Bell encouraged Council members to contact him regarding what is working and not working. He stated that he has met with the Graduate School staff and that items they have discussed include improving Graduate Program Directors Roundtables and Graduate Program Directors and administrative training. Dean Bell reported that in an effort to promote equity and following the rules, he asked Graduate School staff to inform of examples of exceptions that have been made. Based on the number of exceptions that have been made, Dean Bell may wish to revisit certain policies to determine if they are still serving the Graduate School. Dean Bell shared that based on his new role he will step down as advisor for the Graduate Student Association. He also encouraged the Council to be optimistic despite current challenges.

11:23 IV. **Report of the Graduate Student Association—Naglaa Rashwan**

Naglaa thanked Kelly Burke for her service and welcomed Greg Bell as Interim Dean of the Graduate School. She stated that the Graduate Student Association is seeking a new advisor.

Naglaa expressed that UNCG is a resilient community and will get through the current challenges of budget cuts, transitions, and societal challenges together. She provided updates from the Graduate Student Association:

- Collaboration with Kervins Clement to support the Haitian student community
- Greg Bell and Sarah Daynes will foster connectedness through meeting with students
- Come Talk with GSA continues
- Funding for student travel and conferences is available
- Meetings with Student Leaders' Council
- Providing input on undergraduate policies
- Participating in QPR suicide prevention trainings
- Sharing resources with students from the Counseling Center

11:33 V. **Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Brad Johnson and Dennis LaJeunesse**

- *GCC Information Items (from October 15, 2021 meeting)*

Co-chair Brad Johnson reported that 38 proposals were reviewed at the meeting on October 15 and that 66 proposals are slated for the next meeting on November 5. October 31 is the deadline for submitting curricular changes for the 2022-2023 year. The option to submit changes for 2022-2023 will be turned off in CIM in the next week or so.

- 11:43 **VI. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Megan Carlton**
Chair Megan Carlton shared that she is leaving UNCG for a new position. Ben Dyson will take over as the new chair of the Policies & Procedures committee.
- 11:53 **VII. Report of the Student Appeals Committee—No Report**
- 11:55 **VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**
Vidya Gargeya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on October 11 and focused on the causes for budget reductions and where UNCG is heading. He shared that a forum with the Chancellor, Provost, and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration was hosted on October 19. Unfunded liabilities and strategic investments were mentioned as causes for the budget reductions along with a drop in enrollment. Vidya encouraged Council members to view the strategic plan on the Chancellor’s website for information on initiatives that may be funded. He expressed concern regarding faculty and staff not being involved earlier in finding ways to address these challenges. Discussion followed regarding the metric of enrollment and keeping it in proper perspective. Vidya also reiterated that the importance of strategic planning in both successful and less successful times and the ability to account for variance.
- 12:05 pm **IX. New Business/Other—No New Business**
- 12:30 **X. Adjournment—Adjourned early at 11:47 am**